

The LUX-ZEPLIN Dark Matter Search

Aaron Manalaysay

UCDAVIS

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

for the LZ collaboration

DBD18

*International Workshop on Double Beta
Decay and Underground Science*

Hilton Waikoloa Village, Hawaii, USA

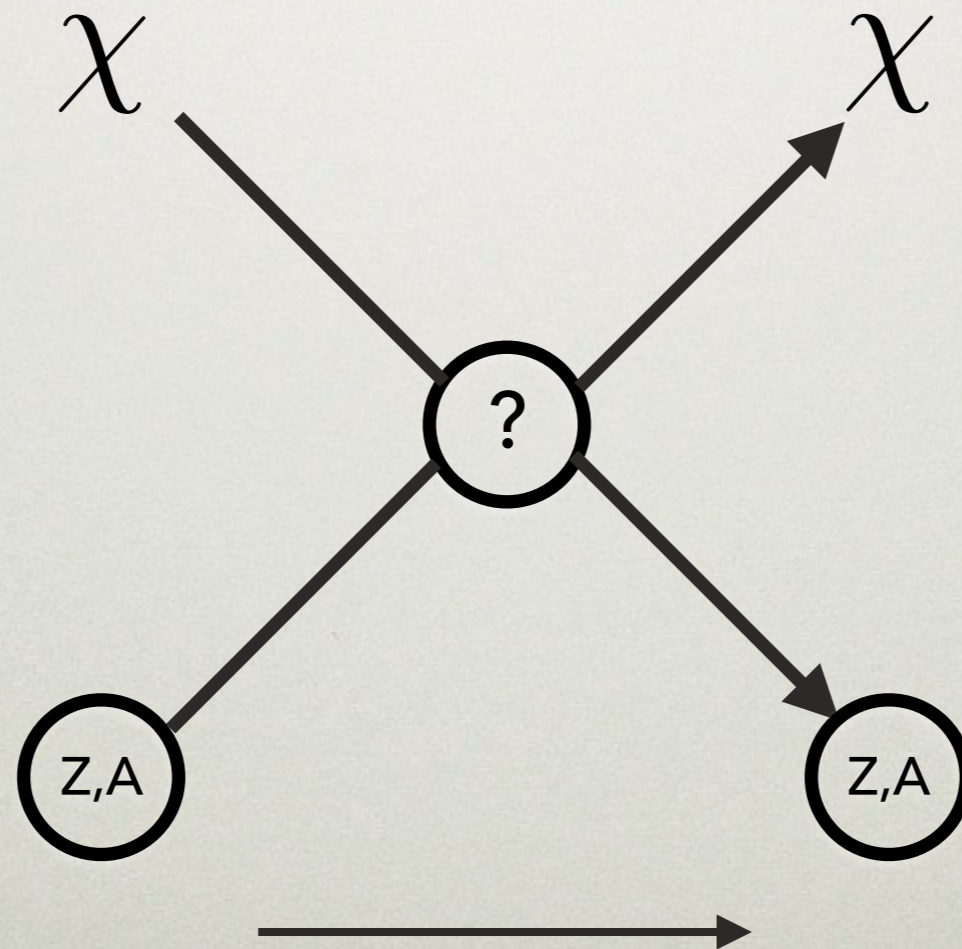
21-23 October, 2018





LUX-ZEPLIN

A direct-detection search, looking primarily (but not only) for WIMP dark matter with a xenon nucleus





LZ collaboration, June 2018

36 institutions

250 scientists, engineers, and technicians



- 1) IBS Center for Underground Physics (South Korea)
- 2) LIP Coimbra (Portugal)
- 3) MEPHI (Russia)
- 4) Imperial College London (UK)
- 5) STFC Rutherford Appleton Lab (UK)
- 6) University College London (UK)
- 7) University of Bristol (UK)
- 8) University of Edinburgh (UK)
- 9) University of Liverpool (UK)
- 10) University of Oxford (UK)
- 11) University of Sheffield (UK)
- 12) Black Hill State University (US)
- 13) Brookhaven National Lab (US)
- 14) Brown University (US)
- 15) Fermi National Accelerator Lab (US)

- 16) Lawrence Berkeley National Lab (US)
- 17) Lawrence Livermore National Lab (US)
- 18) Northwestern University (US)
- 19) Pennsylvania State University (US)
- 20) SLAC National Accelerator Lab (US)
- 21) South Dakota School of Mines and Technology (US)
- 22) South Dakota Science and Technology Authority (US)
- 23) Texas A&M University (US)
- 24) University at Albany (US)
- 25) University of Alabama (US)
- 26) University of California, Berkeley (US)
- 27) University of California, Davis (US)
- 28) University of California, Santa Barbara (US)
- 29) University of Maryland (US)
- 30) University of Massachusetts (US)

- 31) University of Michigan (US)
- 32) University of Rochester (US)
- 33) University of South Dakota (US)
- 34) University of Wisconsin - Madison (US)
- 35) Washington University in St. Louis (US)
- 36) Yale University (US)

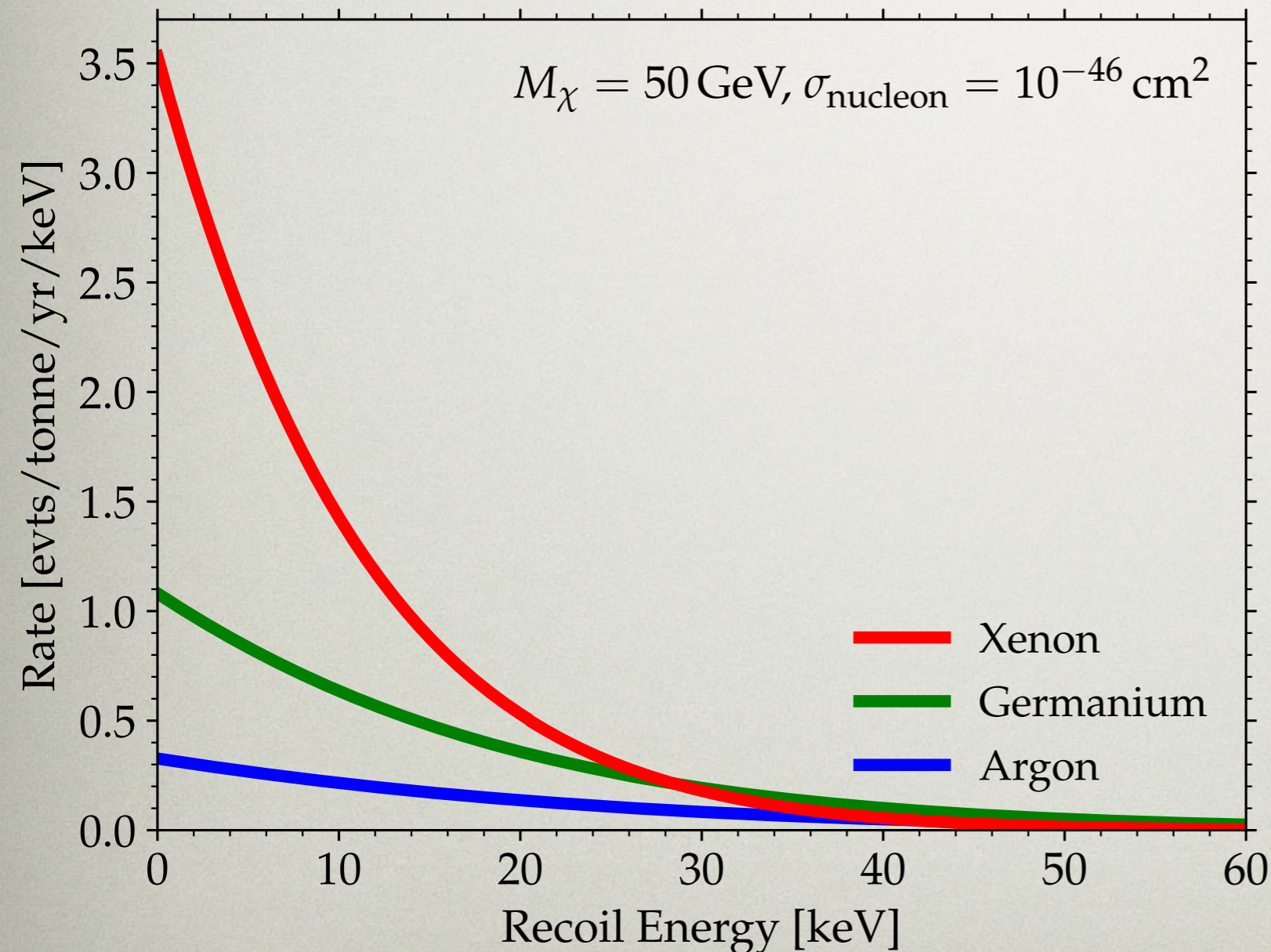


Why use liquid xenon?



Why use liquid xenon?

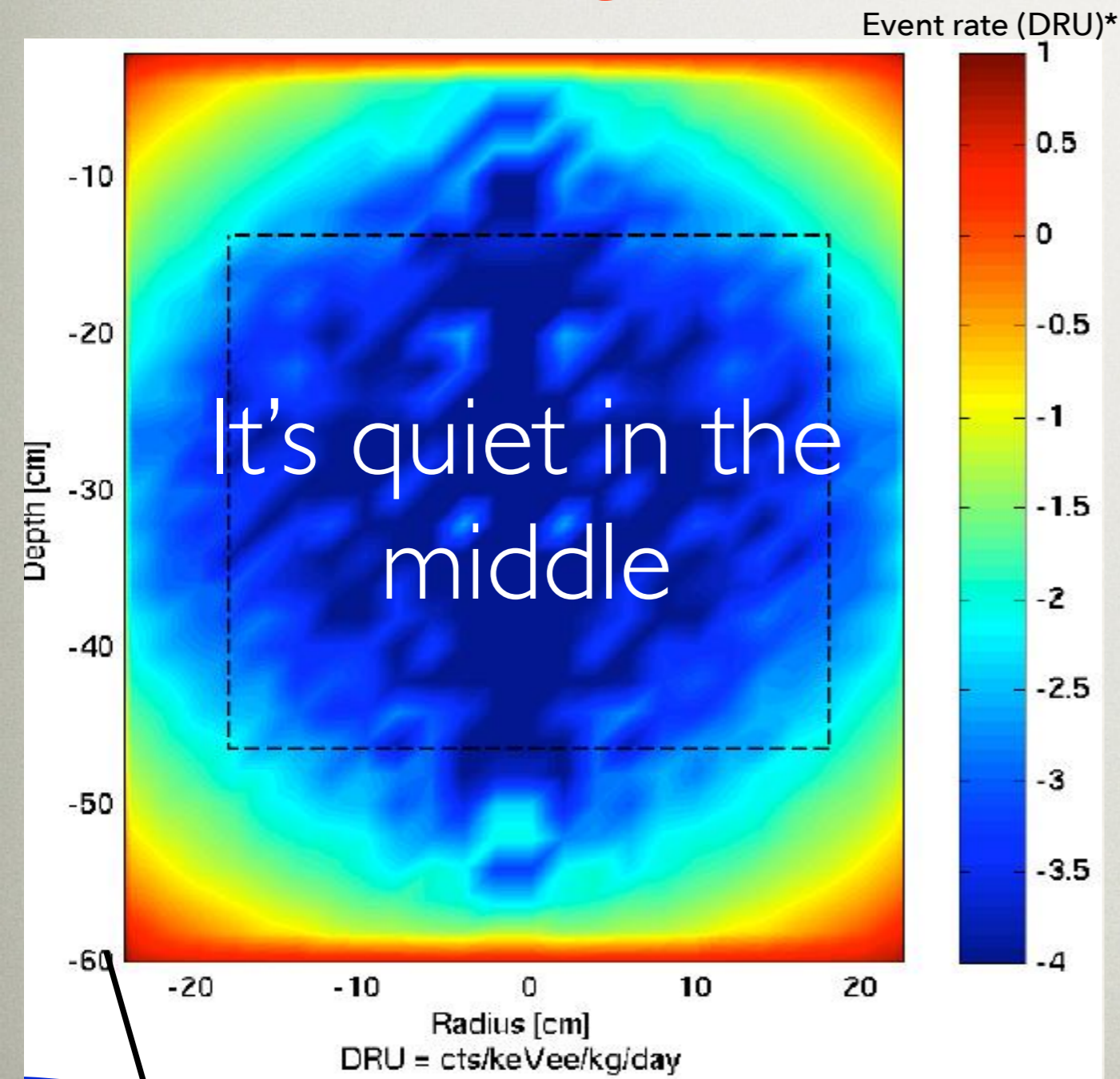
Large signal



- Scalar WIMP-nucleus interactions feature an A^2 dependence on the scattering rate. *Xe has a large A .*
- Natural xenon contains $\sim 50\%$ odd isotopes, giving high sensitivity to spin-coupled interactions

Why use liquid xenon?

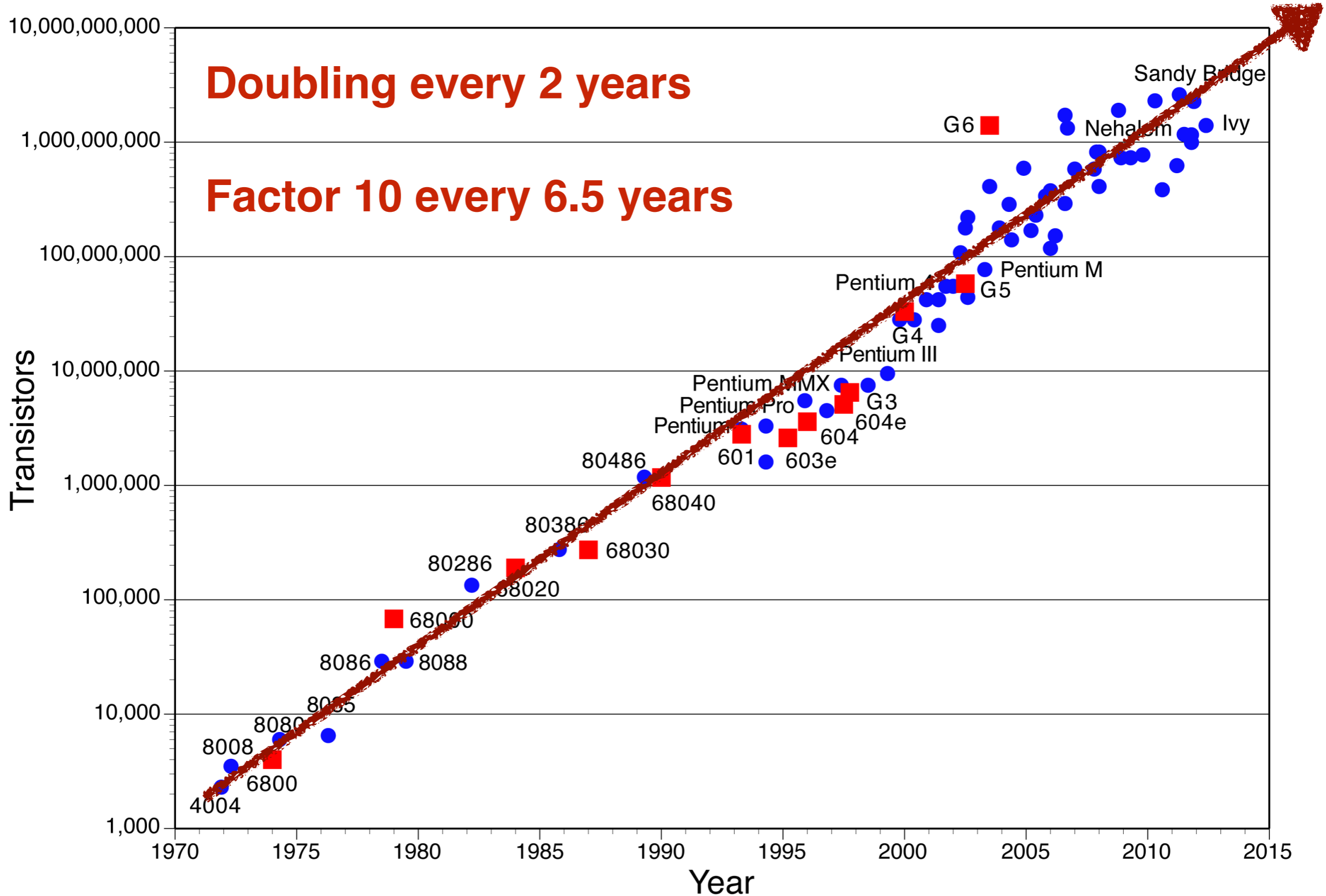
Low background



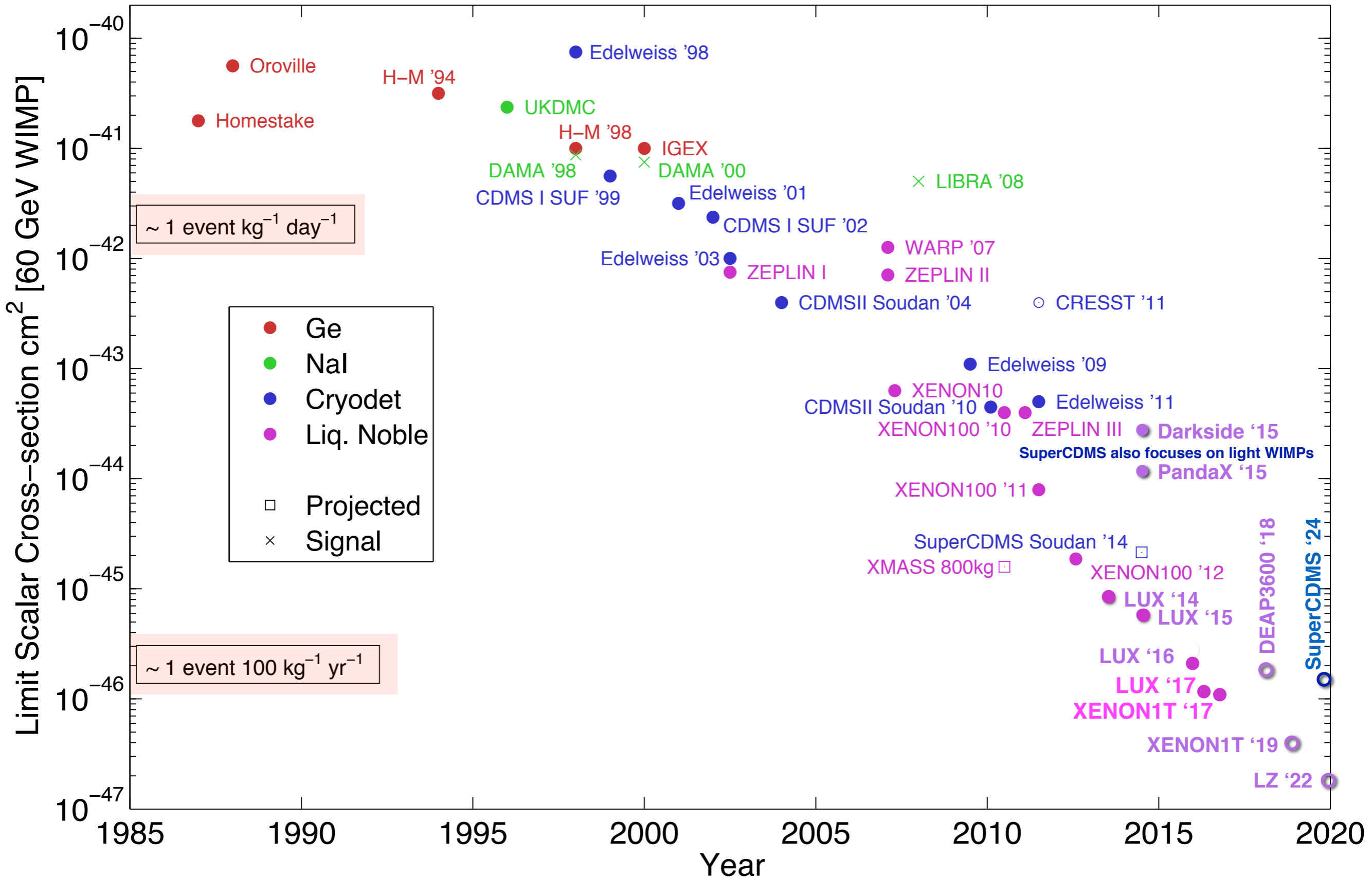
1. Easily scalable to large size
2. 3-D localization of events
3. 1 and 2 permit an ultra-low-background inner region to be defined.

* "DRU" = evt/kg/day/keV

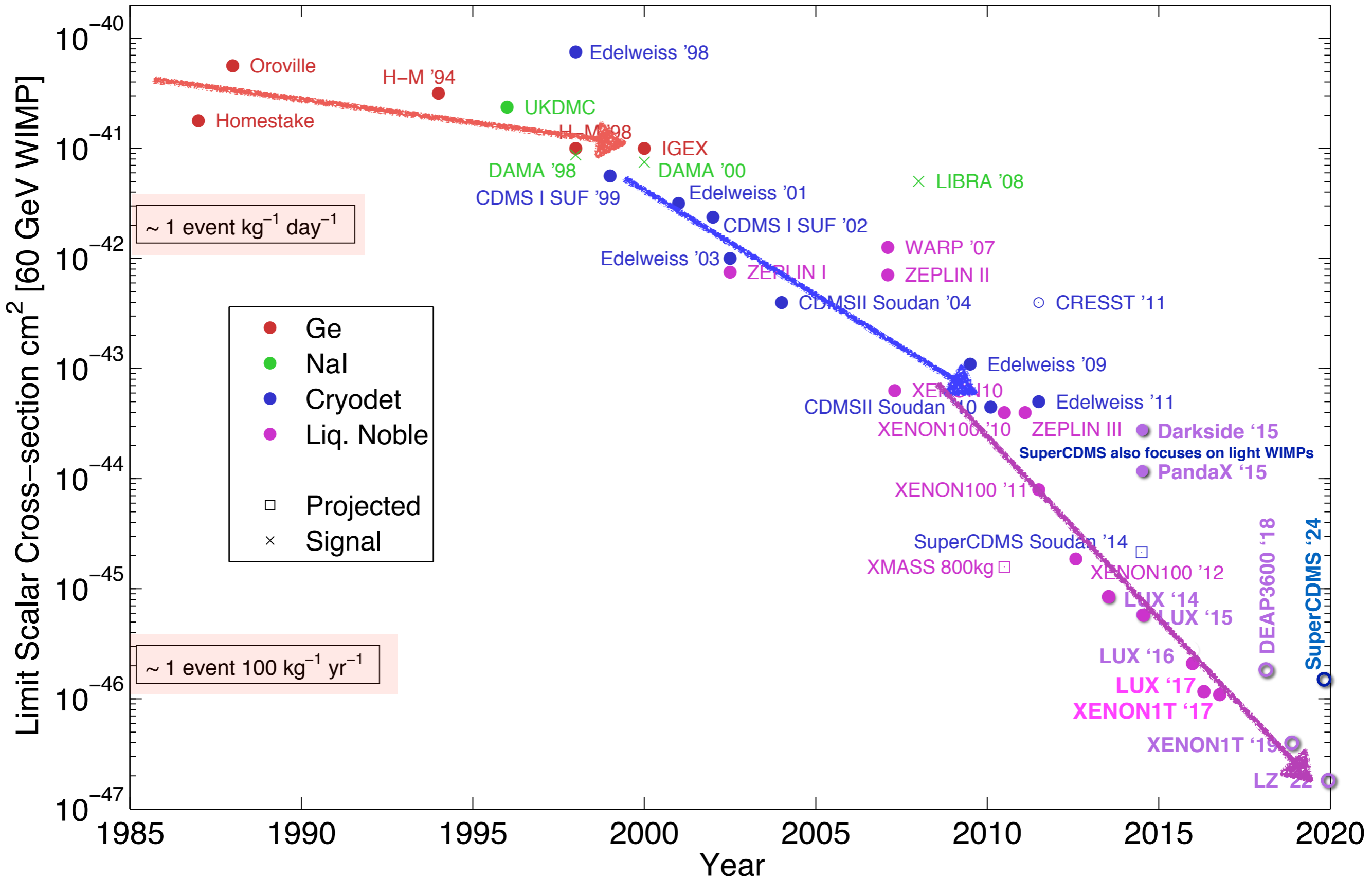
Moore's Law



Dark Matter Searches: Past, Present & Future

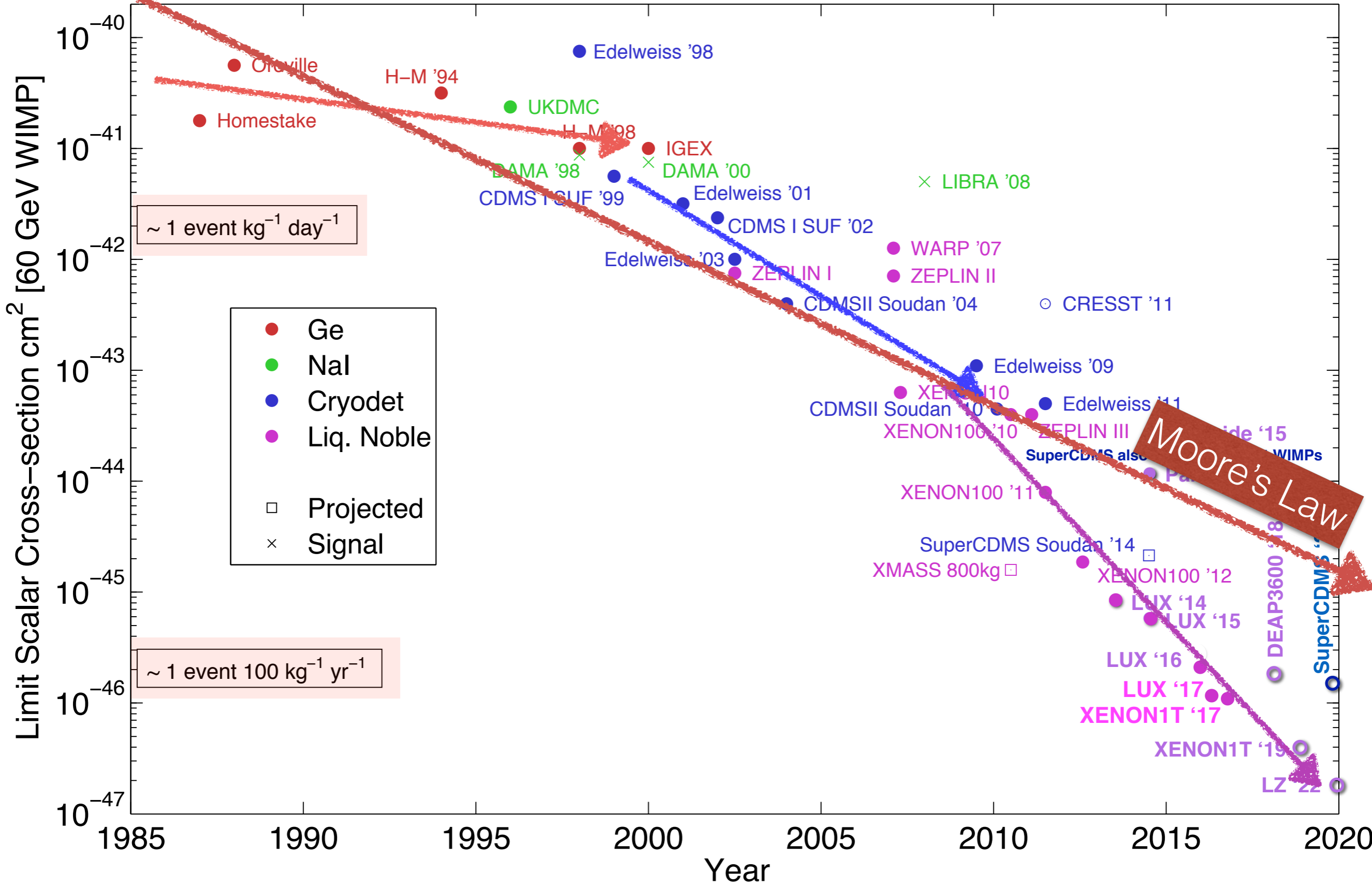


Dark Matter Searches: Past, Present & Future



Courtesy R. Gaitskell

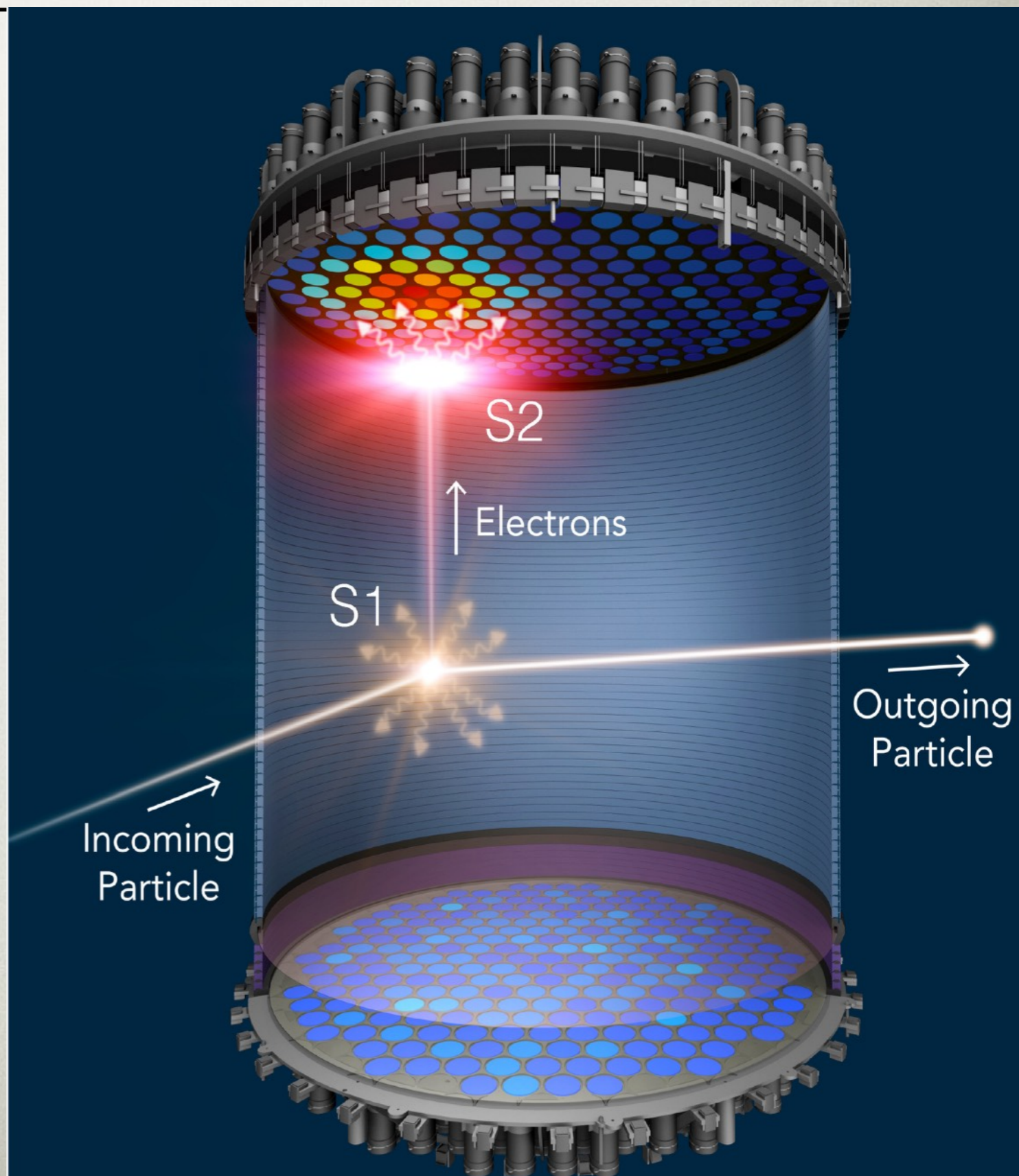
Dark Matter Searches: Past, Present & Future



Dual-phase time projection chamber (TPC)

- Main target is liquid xenon (180 K).
- Primary scintillation light (S1) emitted from interaction vertex
- Ionized e^- drift to the liq. surface; produce prop. light as they travel through gas (S2).
- S1 and S2 permit:
 - Energy reconstruction
 - 3-D position reconstruction
 - Background rejection

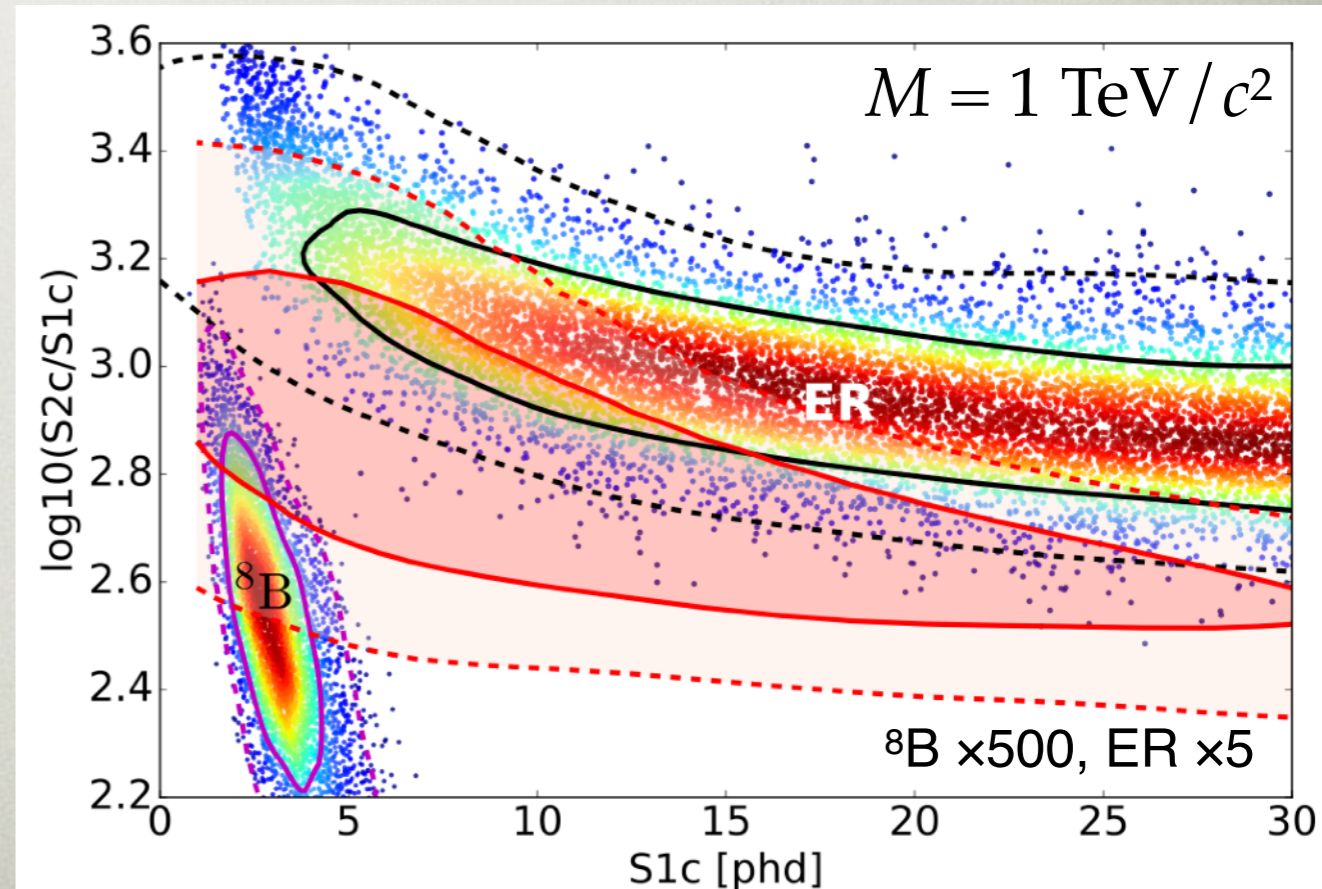
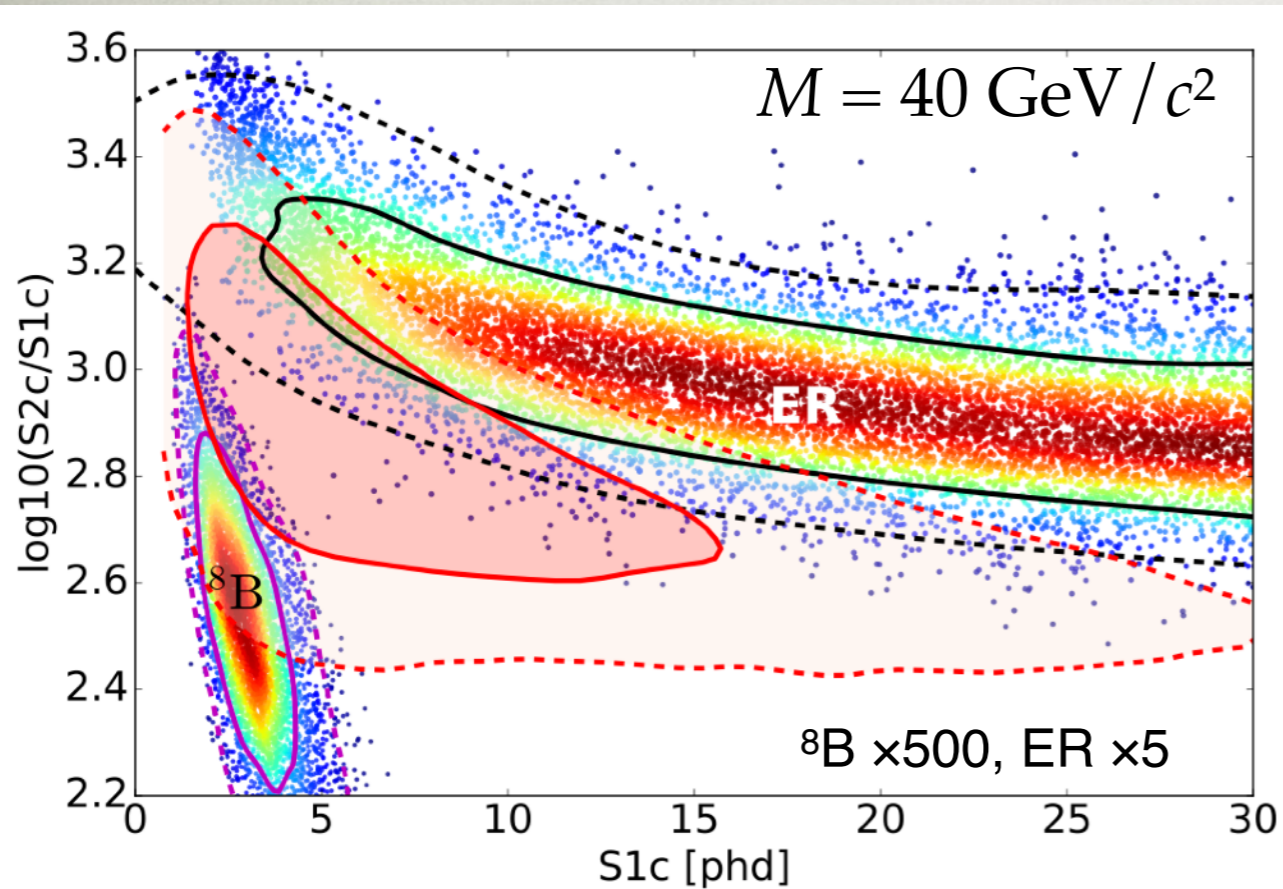
Details in our Technical Design Report: [arXiv/1703.09144](https://arxiv.org/abs/1703.09144)





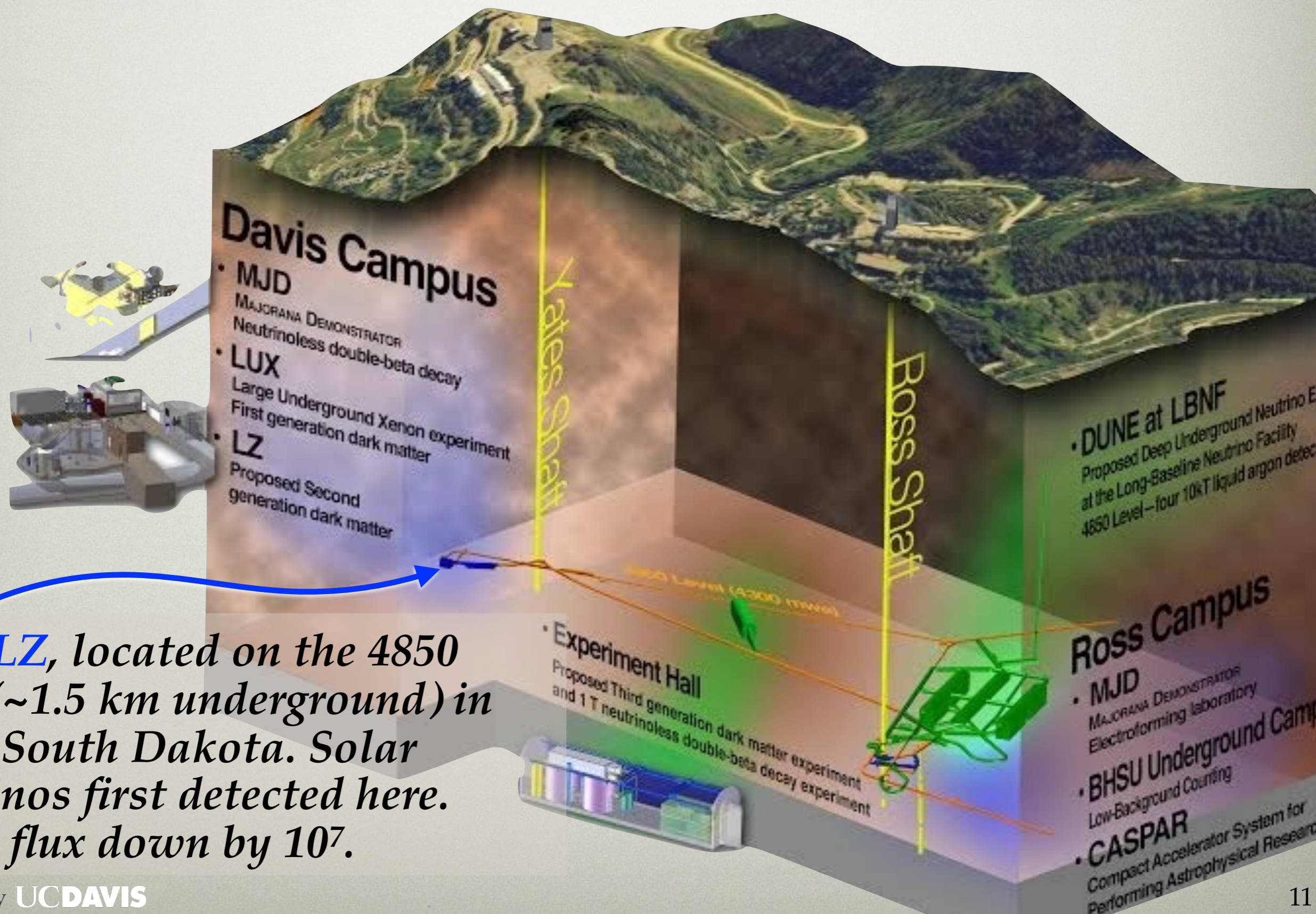
WIMPs: expected signal

- Majority of BG is from electronic recoils (ER).
- WIMPs detected via nuclear recoils (NR).
- ER and NR have different $S1/S2$ ratio.
- Shape of observed spectrum gives info on WIMP mass.
- Low mass sensitivity affected by NR from ^8B solar neutrinos (~ 7 events in 1000d, depends strongly on low-en. NR efficiency).





Sanford Underground Research Facility



LUX/LZ, located on the 4850 level (~1.5 km underground) in Lead, South Dakota. Solar neutrinos first detected here. Muon flux down by 10^7 .



- LZ: factor of ~ 50 larger fiducial than LUX
- Lower backgrounds

LZ
(inner can)



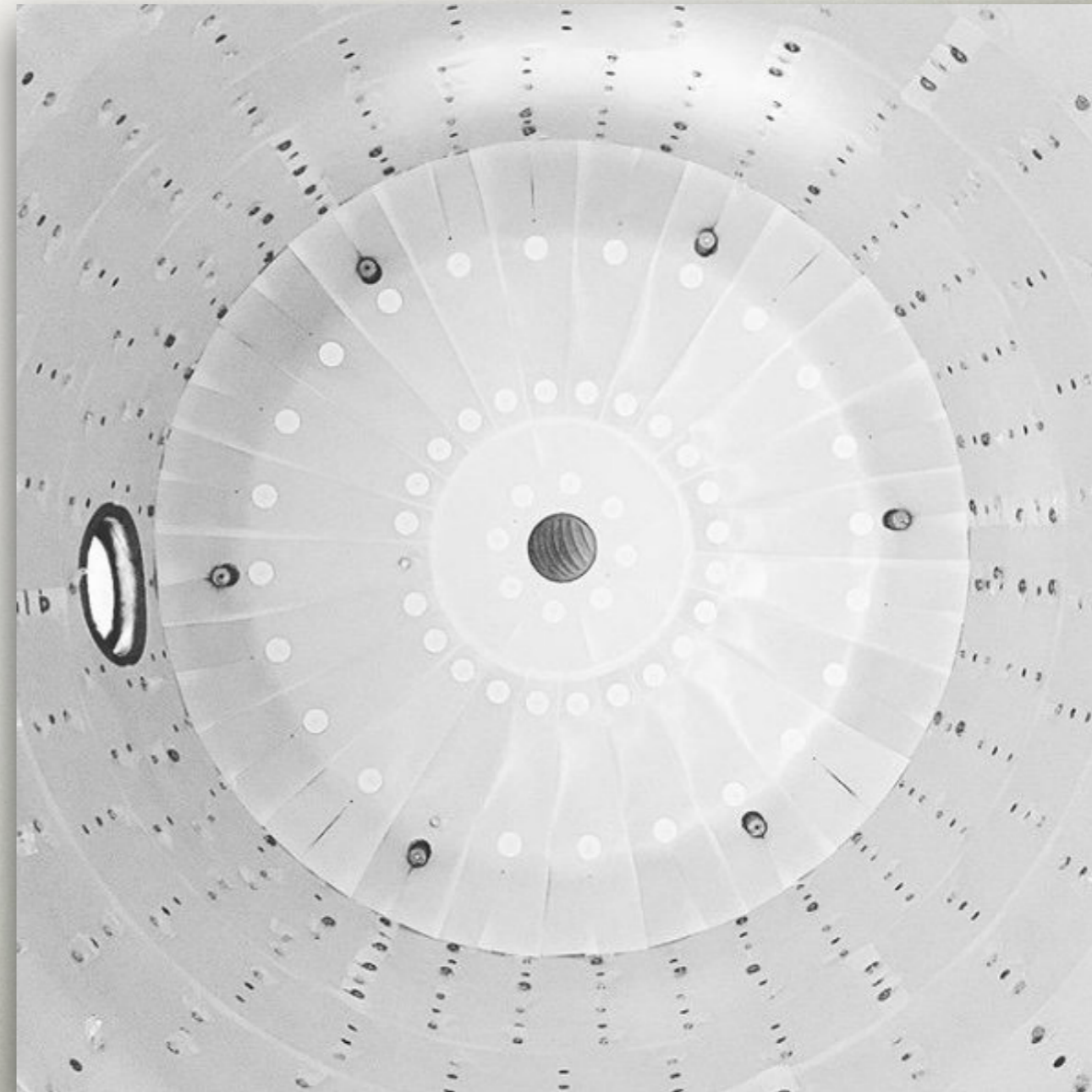
LUX
(inner can)

(See talk by
Shaw Sally)

Cryostat vessels

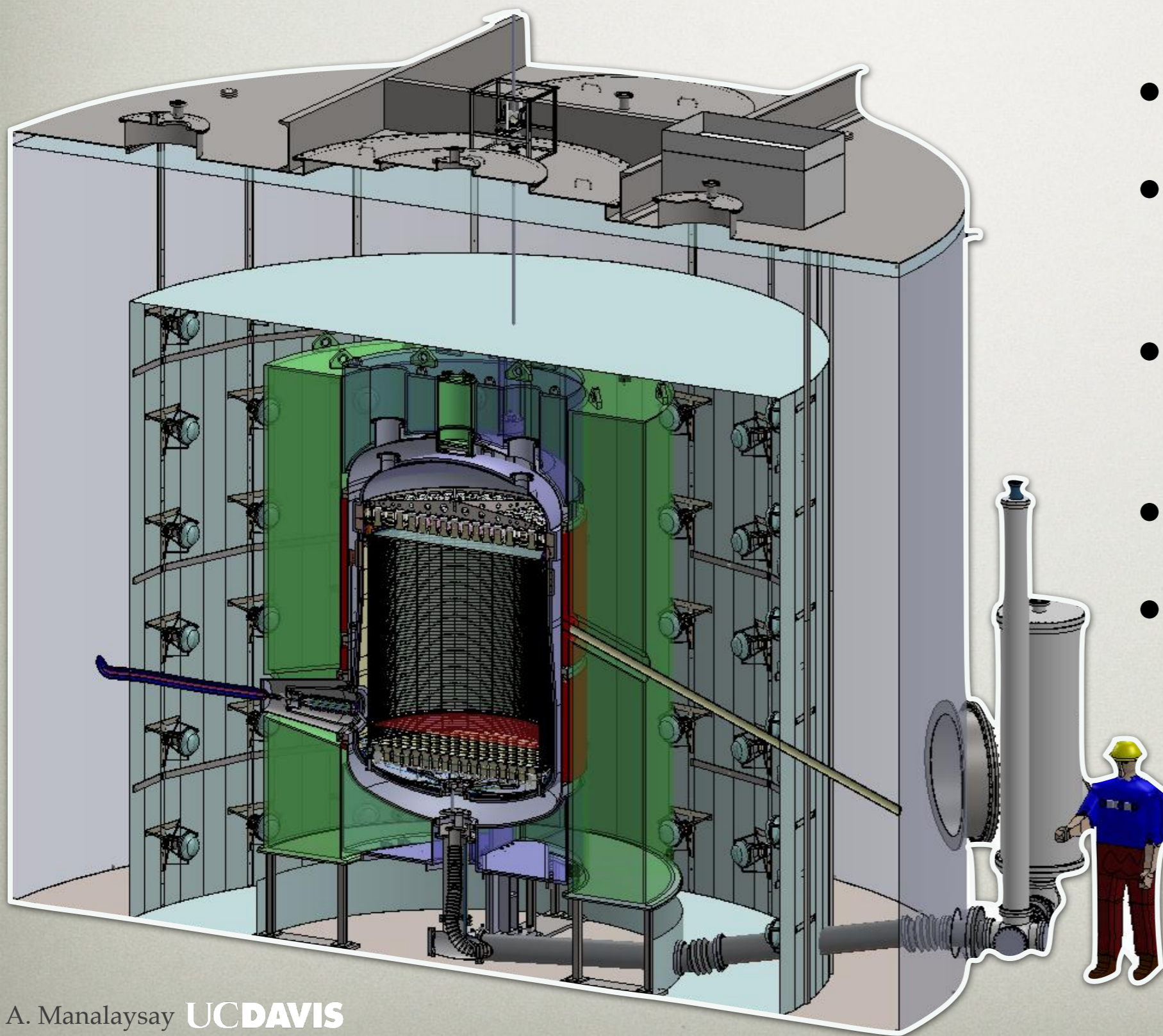
Outer cryostat vessel

UV reflectors in the inner cryostat vessel





LZ



- 7 tonnes active mass.
- Active LXe “skin” veto (outside of TPC)
- Gd-loaded LAB scintillator veto
- LUX’s water shield
- External liquefaction/ purification tower



Photomultiplier Tubes

Hamamatsu

R11410



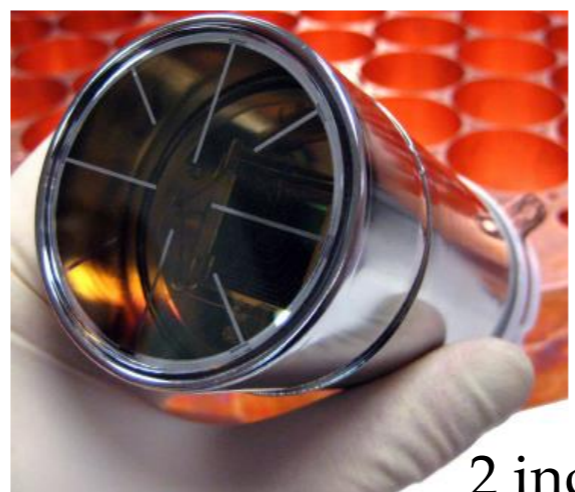
3 inch

R8520



1 inch

R8778 (recycled from LUX)



2 inch

Main TPC

Xe "skin" veto

R5912



8 inch

Scintillator veto



Photomultiplier Tubes

Hamamatsu

Completed lower PMT array

R11410



3 inch

R8520



1 inch

Main TPC

Xe "sk"



R12

Scintillator veto



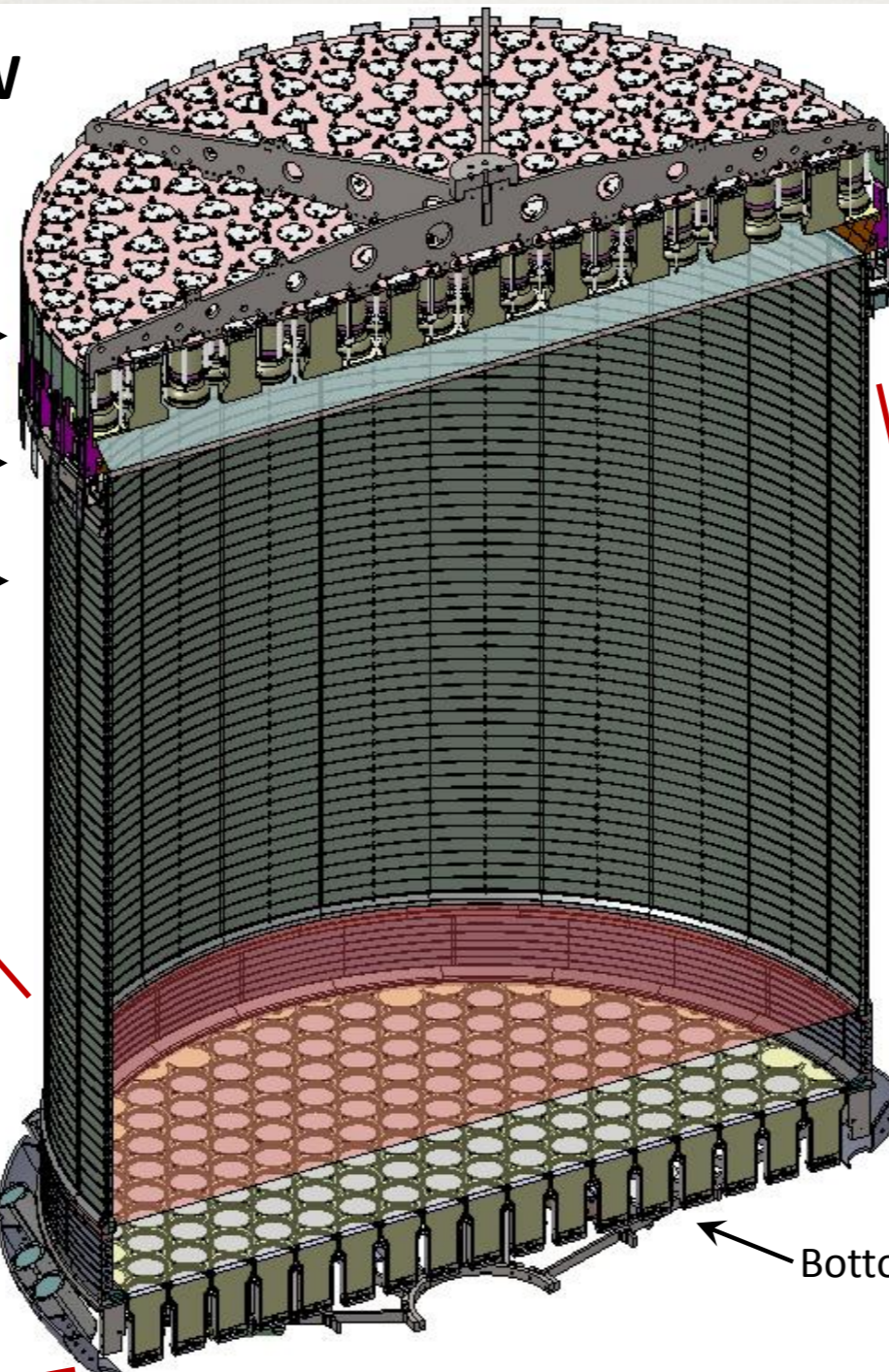
8 inch



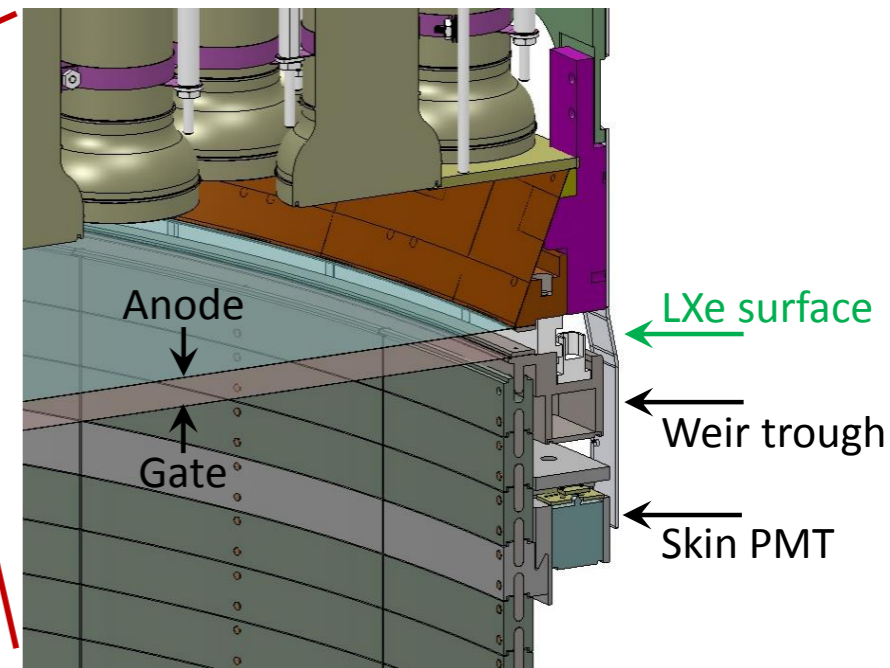
TPC

SECTION VIEW OF LXE TPC

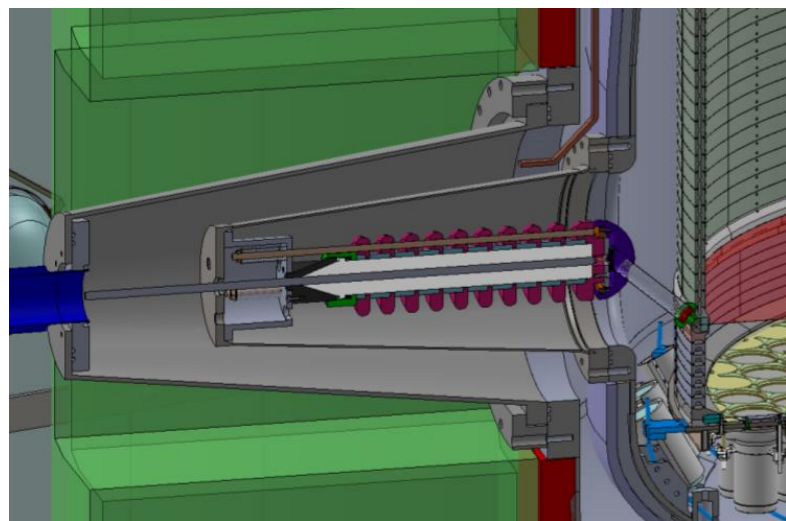
- Top PMT array
- Side Skin PMTs
- TPC field cage



GAS PHASE AND ELECTROLUMINESCENCE REGION



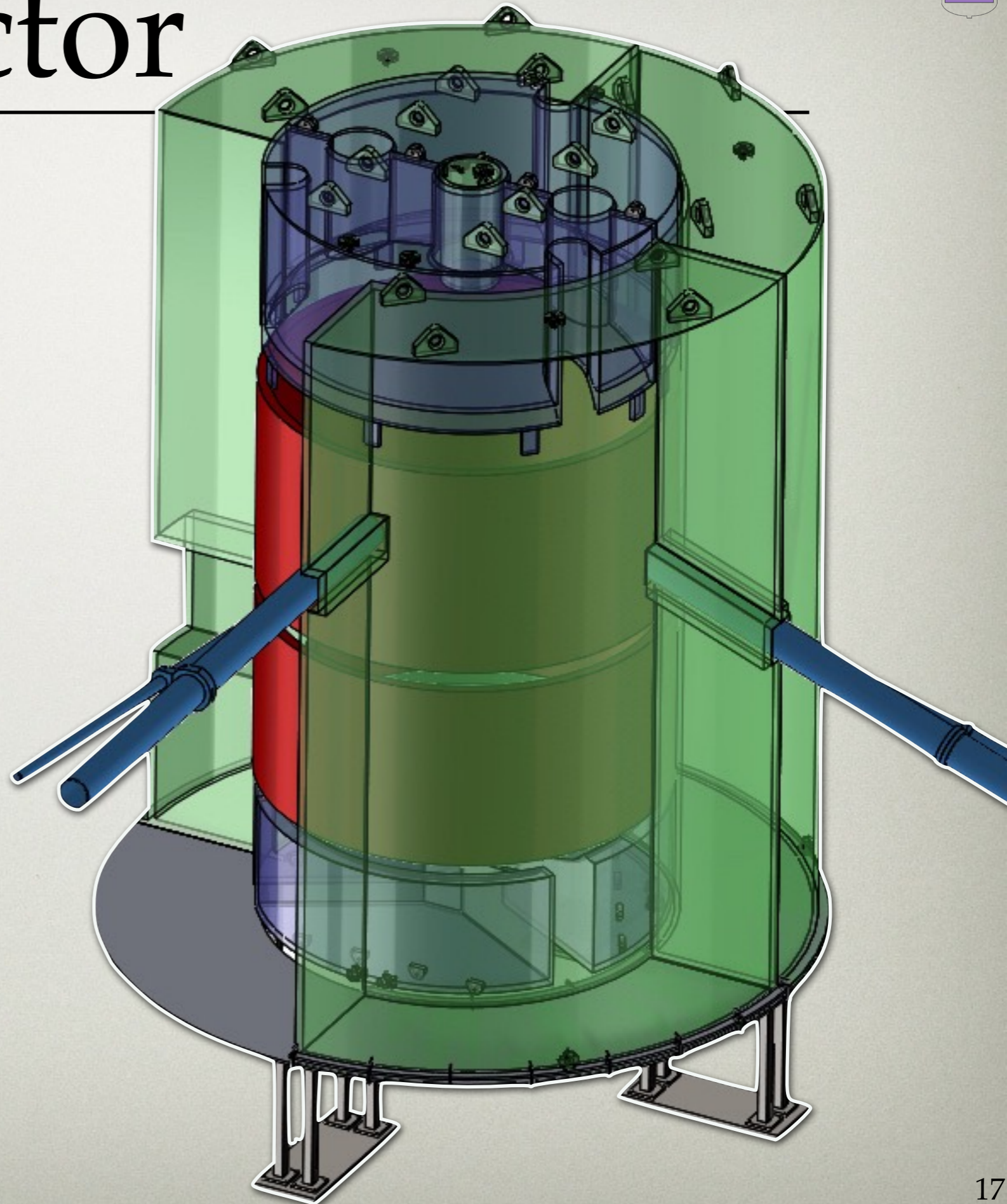
HV CONNECTION TO CATHODE



- Cathode grid
- Reverse-field region
- Side skin PMT mounting plate
- Bottom PMT array

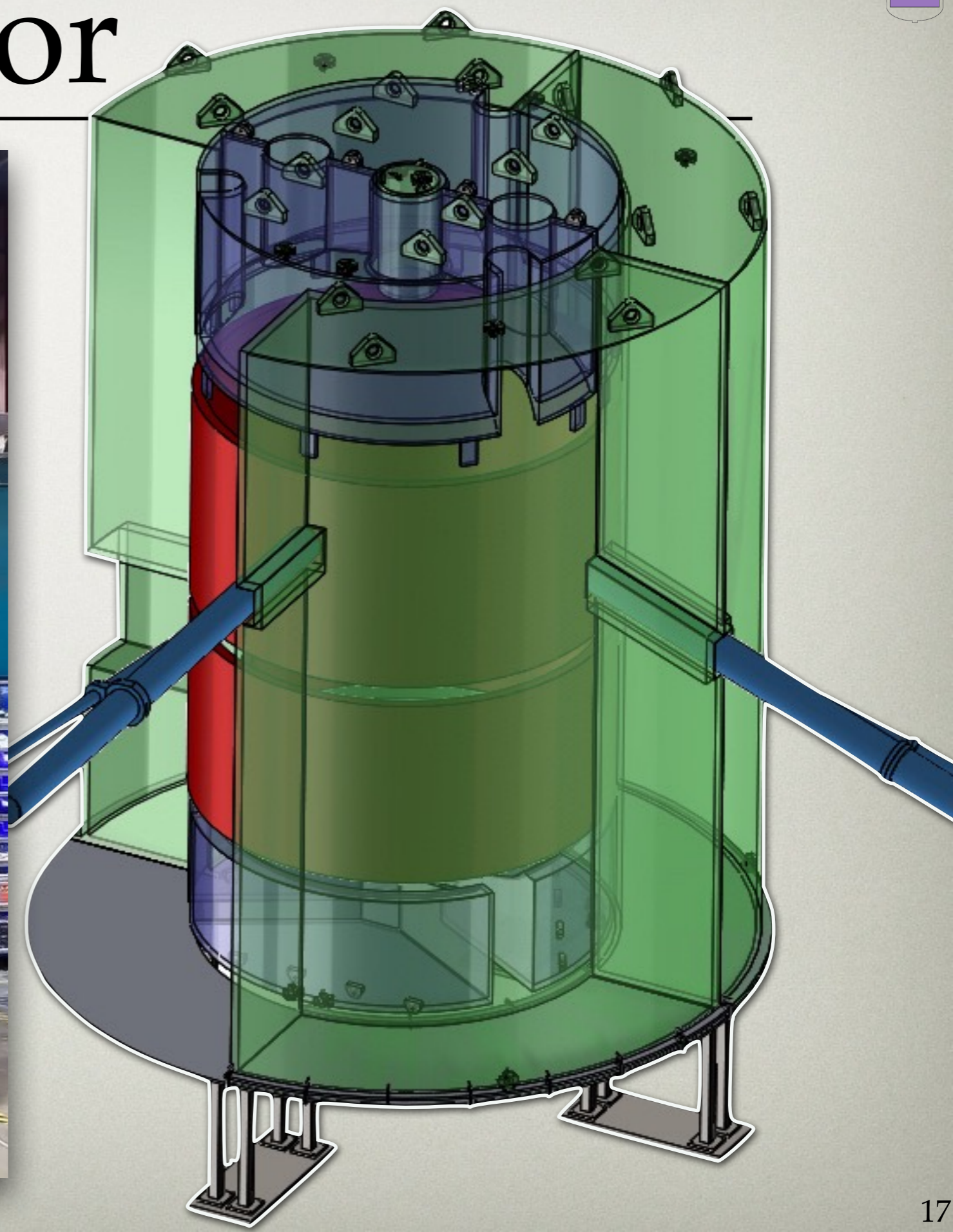
Outer detector

- Gd-doped LAB liquid scintillator.
- Neutron and gamma veto.
- 4π coverage
- Cutouts for cryogenics, electronics, neutron tubes, HV
- Screener vessel already deployed in LUX water shield, good results.



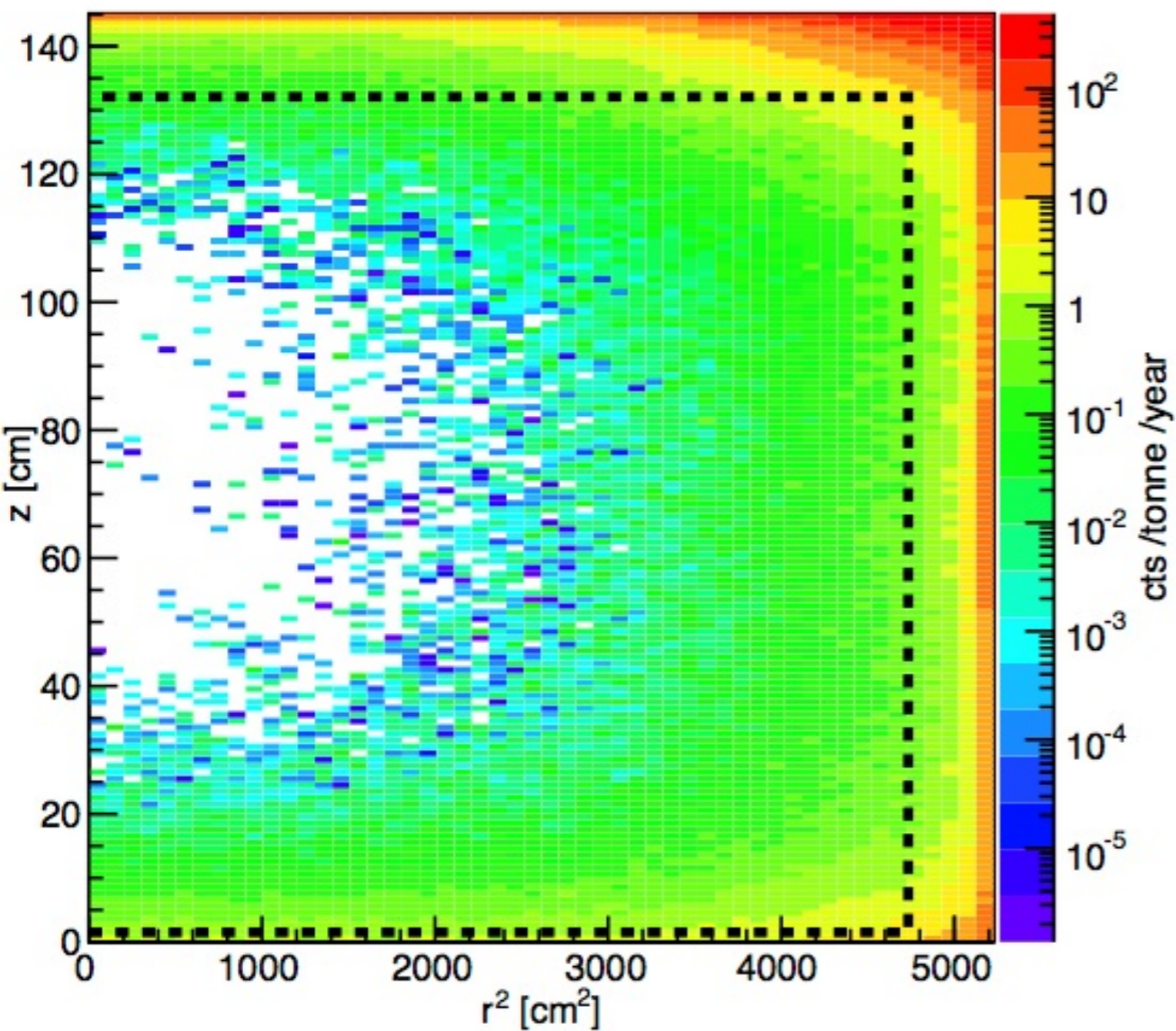


Outer detector



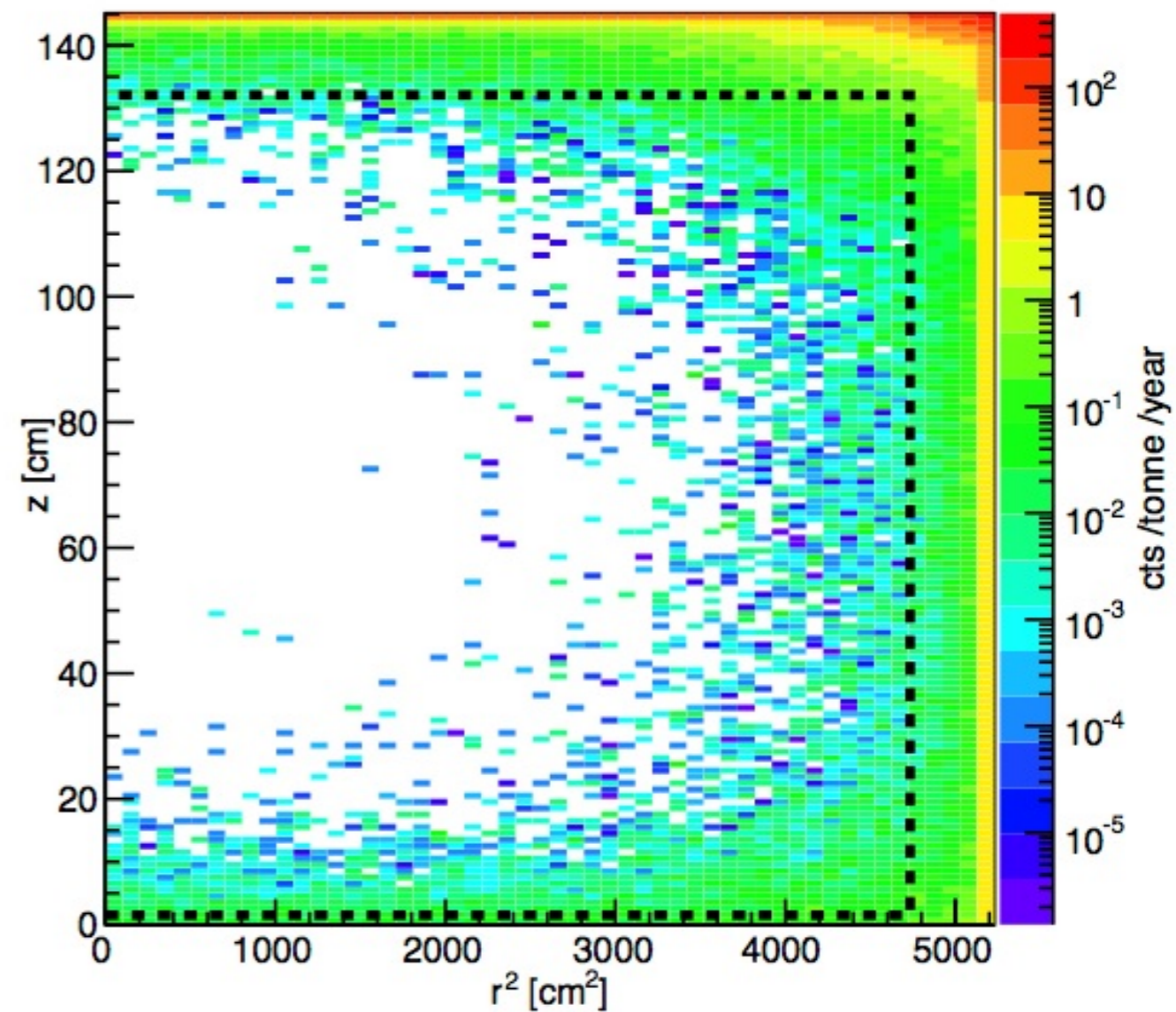
Backgrounds

ROI + Single scatter



No vetoes

ROI + Single scatter + vetoes

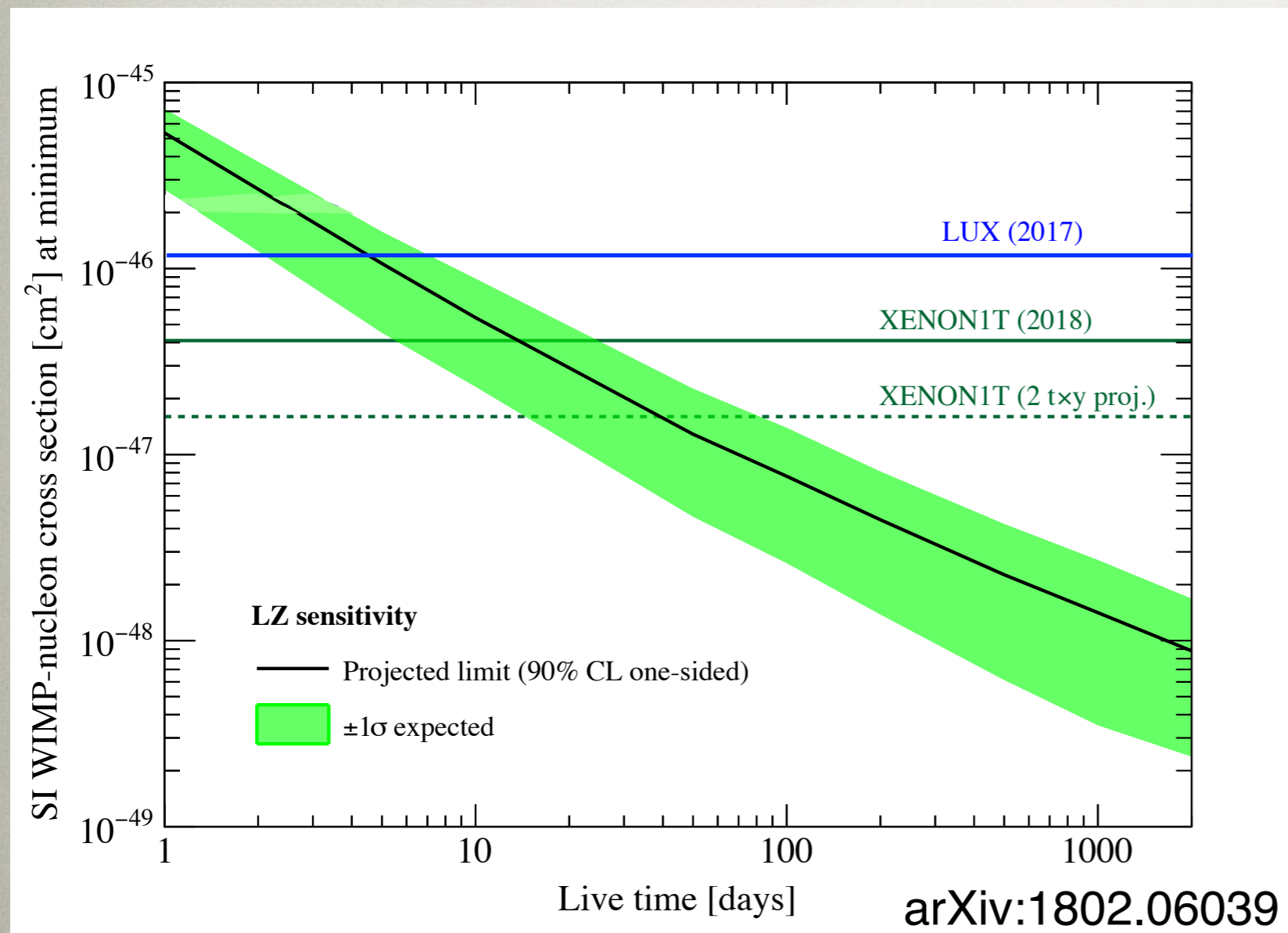


With vetoes (LXe skin and liquid scint.)



Scientific Reach — Standard WIMPs

Min. SI sensitivity vs. live-time

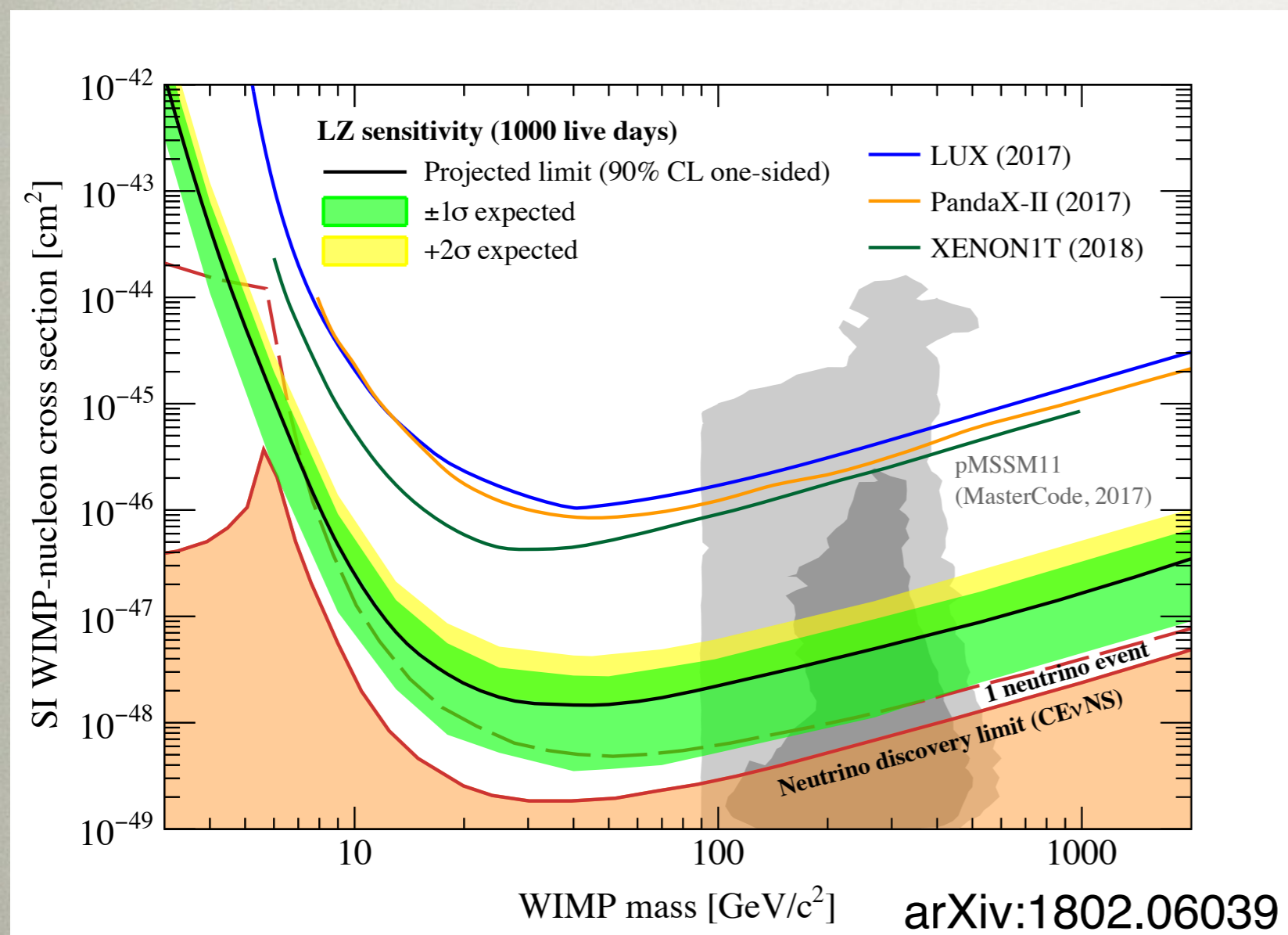


- Reach LUX sensitivity within ~4-5 days
- Reach XENON1T (2018) sensitivity within ~2 weeks
- Min. sensitivity 1.6×10^{-48} cm² after 1000 live-days



Scientific Reach — Standard WIMPs

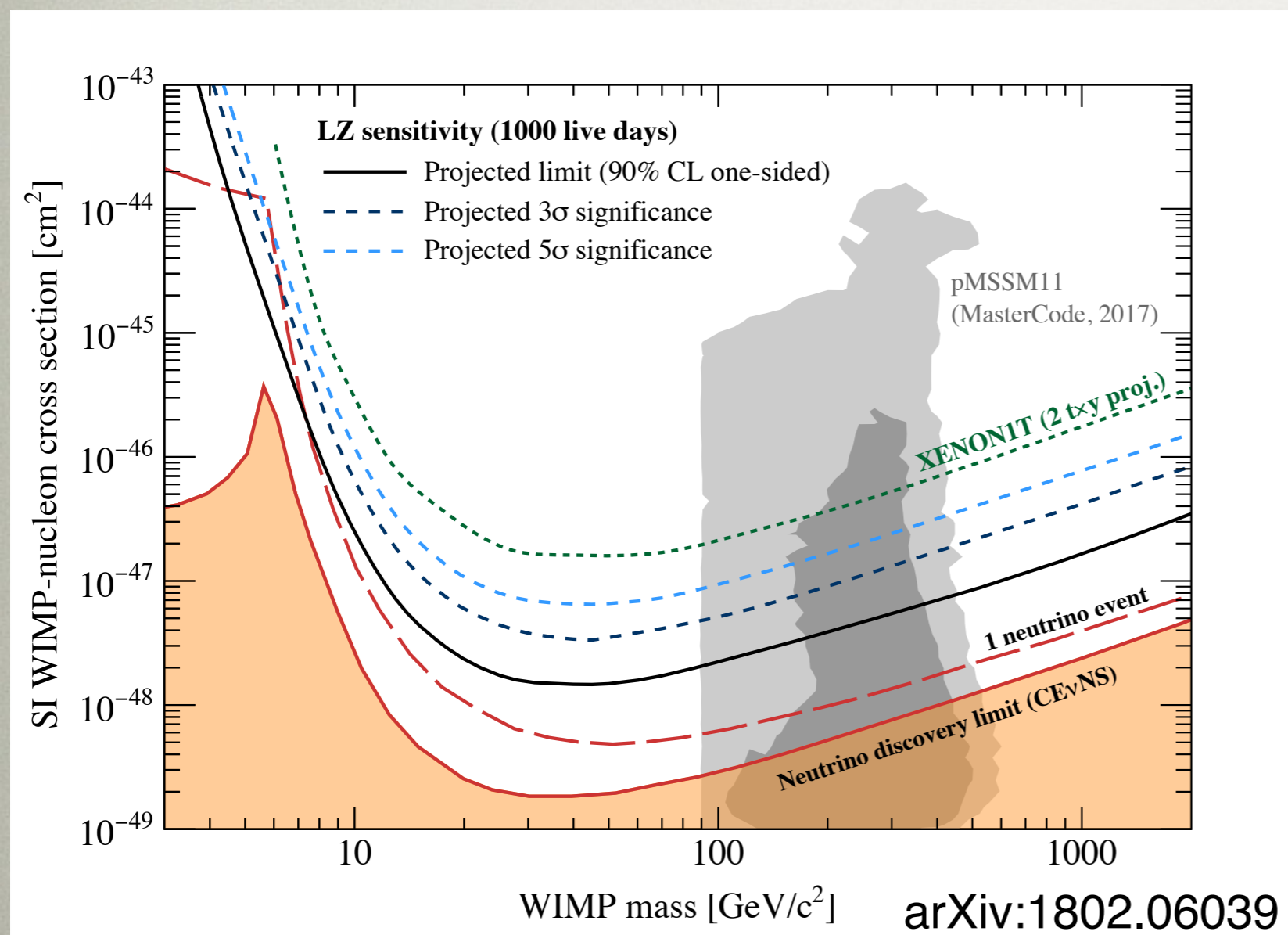
Proj. [SI] sensitivity vs. WIMP mass



- With LZ, we begin to probe a significant region of param. space favored in pMSSM
- Sensitivity not yet limited by CNNS irreducible BG
- But expect to see many CNNS events from ^8B , and potentially 1 event from atm+DSNB.

Scientific Reach — Standard WIMPs

Discovery potential

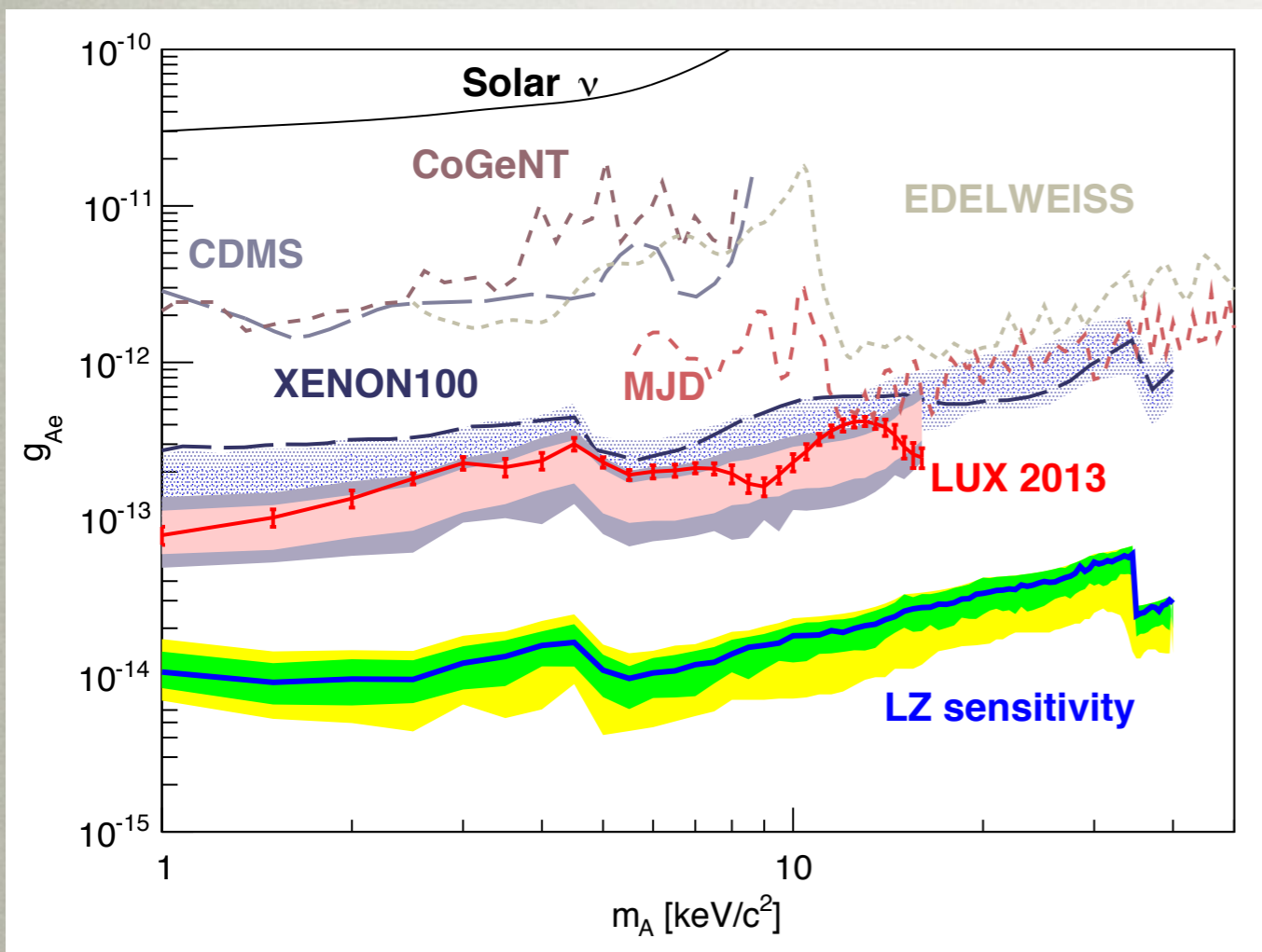


- Setting limits is great, but
- Really we are doing this to make a detection.
- Projected detection potential reaches (at min)
 - ▶ $3.8 \times 10^{-48} \text{ cm}^2$ at 3σ
 - ▶ $6.7 \times 10^{-48} \text{ cm}^2$ at 5σ

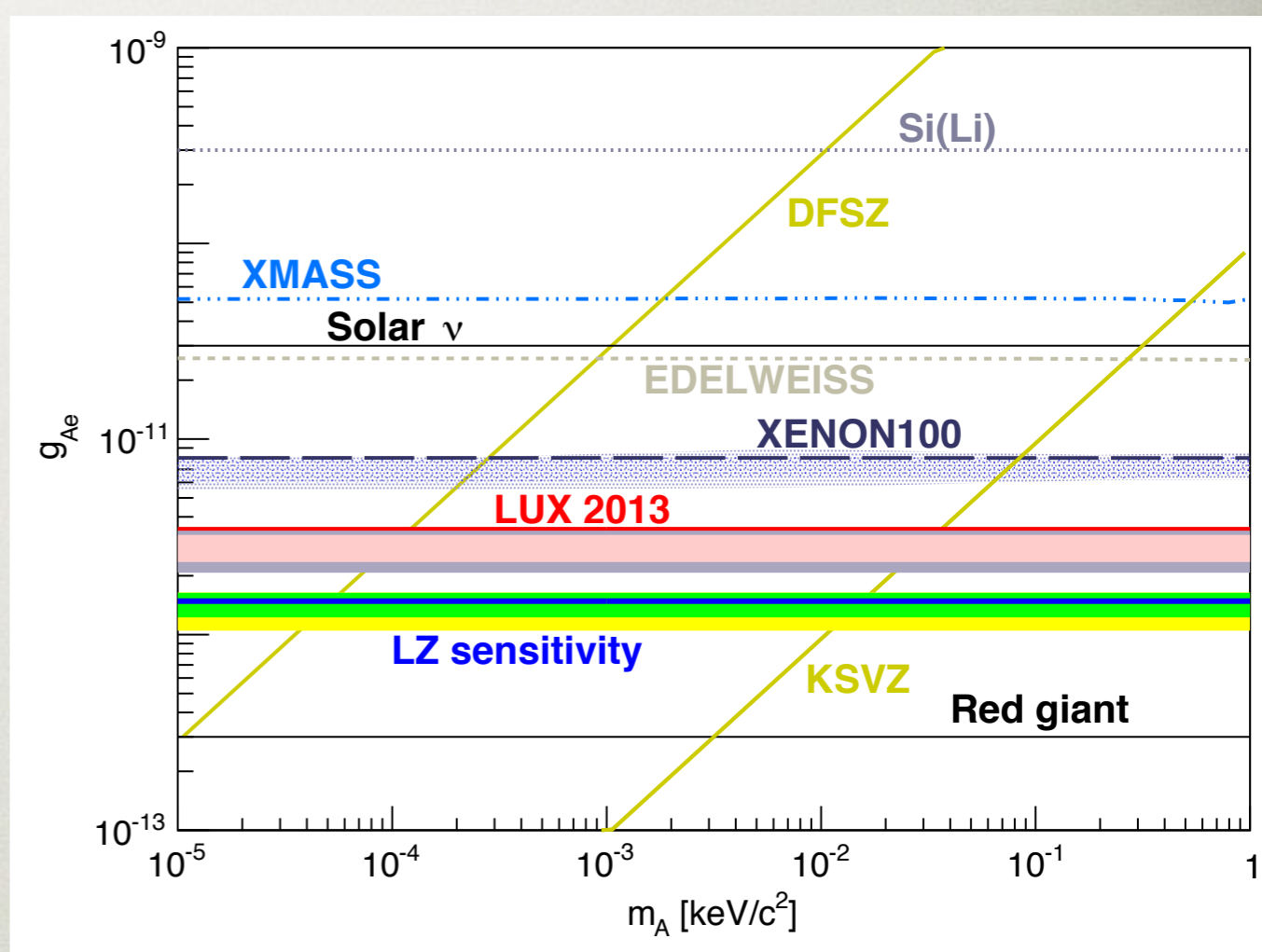


Scientific Reach — Axions and ALPs

Dark-matter ALPs

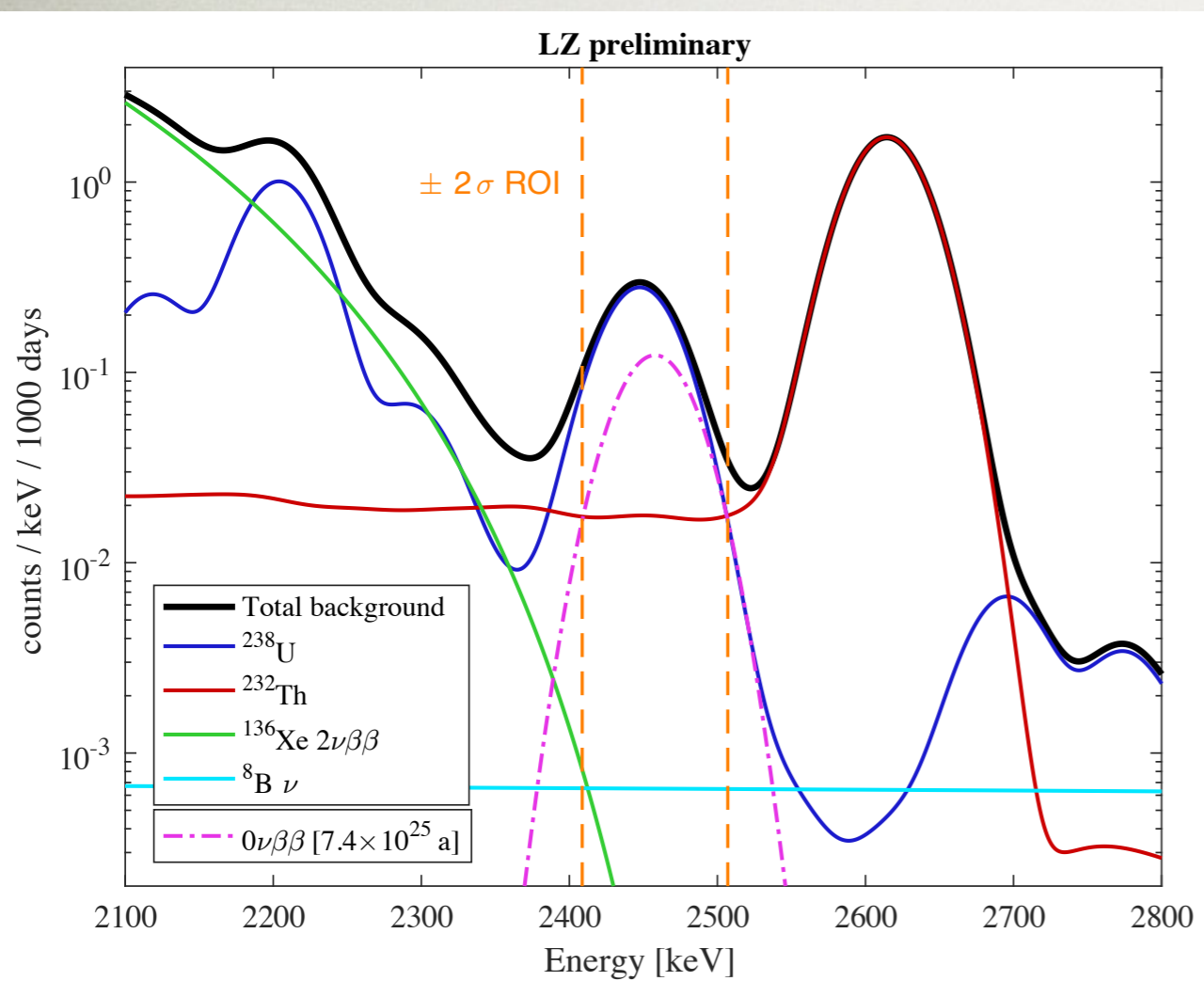


Solar axions





Neutrinoless double beta decay



- ^{136}Xe Q value at 2458 keV
- We project 1% energy resolution at Q value.
- Main BG from PMTs+Cryostat
- Dedicated fiducial volume: 957 kg (BG optimized)
- 1000 live-day run
- **Median 90% CL sensitivity on $^{136}\text{Xe } 0\nu\beta\beta$ half-life:**

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 0.74 \times 10^{26} \text{ years (median)}$$



Summary

- Noble-liquid TPCs leading the field in sensitivity to WIMP
- LZ is the successor to ZEPLIN and LUX. 7 tonnes LXe (5.6 tonnes fiducial)
- LZ will reach sensitivity of 1.6×10^{-48} cm² for SI WIMP-nucleon interactions. Other dark-matter results expected as well.
- Sensitivity to $0\nu\beta\beta$ of ¹³⁶Xe of 0.74×10^{26} years
- LZ is at an advanced stage. Construction already begun, planning first science data in 2020.